



Professional Enrichment Course

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
Office of Medical Education

PEC Registrar – Denise Downs d downs@pitt.edu 412-648-8749

Arts and Medicine

Enrollment Period:	Winter/ Spring 2023
Course Dates:	Friday Jan 27, Feb 3, Feb 10, and Feb 17 (1:30-4:30PM)
Student Max:	10
Class Year:	MS1, MS2
Course Director:	Jason Bitterman, MD
Course Administrator:	Kristie Marie Westerlund
Student Administrators:	Natalie Pino (Pino.Natalie@medstudent.pitt.edu) Purva Rumde (Rumde.Purva@medstudent.pitt.edu)
Location:	TBA
Registration:	Via Amp Up during PEC enrollment period
Course Description:	<p>This PEC will introduce first- and second-year medical students to foundational drawing techniques, with the aim of fostering creativity, fostering self-expression, and teaching how to visually communicate medical topics to patients and colleagues. In addition, students will translate artistic observation skills to a clinical context. A good physician, like a good artist, must be a keen observer of their world.</p> <p>In this course, students will learn different drawing and cartooning techniques. Each student will also create a 1-page patient education comic on a topic of their choosing.</p> <p>The course director, Dr. Bitterman, is a Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation doctor who draws comics about working in healthcare.</p>

Objectives:	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Learn and practice fundamental principles of drawing · Apply these principles to their experience as medical trainees, to better understand diseases and disorders, and to empathize with patients' experiences · Critically analyze the relationship of art and medicine · Improve their clinical observation skills by learning how to better observe and "read" artwork
Pre-Requisites:	None

Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Keep a sketchbook and draw in it daily (with short assignments) for the duration of the PEC · Create a 1-page patient education comic based on a topic of the student's choice
Texts:	To be determined

Course Syllabus:

Session One – Intro to Art and Medicine, Learning to See

- Interactive lesson on basic drawing techniques
- Opening drawing exercise – "Alternate Identities"
- Brief lecture on arts and medicine and "learning to see" (observing things as they are, not as our minds think we see them)
- Drawing exercises practicing the skill of "learning to see"

Session Two – Visual Arts and Expression

- Opening drawing exercise – "10 Second Cat"
- Interactive lesson on "drawing" emotions
- Drawing exercise – illustrating a patient narrative
- Interactive lesson on making comics
- Drawing exercise – illustrating a personal narrative

Session Three – Visual Communication in Medicine

- This session will be about communicating different medical topics through visuals (whether that be single illustrations, diagrams, or comics) and how to distill complicated information into easily readable images
- Tentative plan to have a professional medical illustrator be a guest speaker for this session • Drawing exercise – Prep work for patient education comic

Session Four – Visual Arts and Patient Care

- This session will tie the first session's focus on "learning to see" (in an art context) to "learning to see" in a medical context (in particular, observing things closely during a patient encounter)
- Students will also share their final project (a 1-page patient education comic) with each other and discuss their creative approach